

21st March 1970 League Match v. Ilford (away)

Ilford 2, Wycombe Wanderers 3

TONY HORSEMAN means goals . . . and to prove it, he sparked some life back into the Wycombe Wanderers' attack when he returned at Newbury Park on Saturday, after his recent spell on the casualty list.

But it was one of the Blues England squad players, Peter Suddaby, who figured in several vital incidents during an action packed Isthmian League match which established the Bucks club once more as championship favourites.

In the end, after helping home Ilford's opening score, and following this with a series of tackles that, if finding little disfavour from referee Mr. K. W. Sutliff, still riled the home crowd, Suddaby capped his afternoon by netting the winning goal ten minutes from time.

In fact it was Wycombe's

blond haired ex-Skem who added the ding-dong to an uncertain 90 minutes.

Suddaby helped Ilford take the lead when he ran a shot by Cerasoli that was going over the line, further into the net after 13 minutes.

Earlier Wanderers had had a narrow squeak as a long throw from Don Griffin had their defence in trouble and Peter McGillicuddy's shot beat Maskell only to run along the goaline to be cleared.

Suddaby had the home crowd screaming for blood for two fouls on McGillicuddy and Clark in the first half, and some thought he was lucky to escape booking, or worse.

Critical of the referee for most of the game, the crowd became even more bewildered in the second period when home team skipper, Eddie Shaw was booked for only a mild foul on Keith Searle. Keith must have sympathised to some extent, for only seven days earlier he too had been unlucky when sent off at Maidenhead.

Wanderers were put back on terms in the 18th minute through Horseman, who seemed recovered from his leg injury. He collected a through pass from Julian Lailey and, completely unmarked, easily sent the ball in for an equaliser.

Undeterred, the home side came back to harass the Wycombe defence in which John Maskell was having an unhappy time. And in the 29th minute a mistake by the 'keeper led to Ilford's second goal. He could only push out a shot from a corner and Steve Kirby pounced to drop an overhead shot into an empty net.

However the scores were levelled again three minutes later. The ball, cleared from a left wing corner, was put back quickly to where Horseman and Delaney stood suspiciously offside and unmarked in front of goal. But playing to the whistle the Wanderers skipper rammed the ball into the net in spite of strong Ilford appeals.

Once again the home team fought back. Their young striker, Kirby tested Maskell with two hard shots and five minutes from the break, put a great pass through to winger John Clarke, only for an open goal to be scored.

Searle put Hutchinson away but his poor shot spoilt a good chance. Then Suddaby was lucky to get away with a bad foul on Clark, particularly as he had only just brought down McGillicuddy.

After treatment, McGillicuddy took the free kick himself and crashed a pile driver at the goal. Delaney got his head to the ball and was laid out in the process but recovered after treatment.

Delaney still looked shaky when the players returned for the second half, but he gradually recovered and the Wanderers were soon dictating play.

However they found the home defence hard to pierce, and the visitors were always under a certain amount of pressure.

Ten minutes from time a throw in was surprisingly given to Wanderers and, from the attack that followed, Suddaby volleyed the ball into the far corner.

The visitors were lucky when a minute from time Clark hit the post and referee Sutliff turned down a confident appeal for hands as the ball was cleared.

Ilford: James; Griffin, Penrhyn; Dodkin, Shaw, McGillicuddy; Clark, Kirby, Lillington, Jackson, Cerasoli. Sub.: Ellis (not used).

Wycombe Wanderers: Maskell; Rundle, Gale; Suddaby, Delaney, Lailey; Anthony, Baker, Searle, Horseman, Hutchinson. Sub.: Blunt (not used).